

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-33 stand rejected. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 17, 25, 27 and 31 have been amended. This application continues to include claims 1-33.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as having insufficient antecedent basis for the term “the pop-up”. Applicants have amended claim 7 to depend from claim 6, thereby providing antecedent basis for the term. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 1-11 and 25-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Each of independent claims 1 (from which claims 2-11 depend) and 25 (from which claims 26-32 depend) has been amended to recite, “In a computer system having a display device and a control device, a graphical user interface for browsing ...”, and thus claims 1-11 and 25-32 are believed to be clearly statutory. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-11 and 25-32 under 35 U.S.C. §101 be withdrawn.

Claims 1-7, 10-18, 21-26 and 28-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmel, et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0186252) and further in view of Bates-566 (U.S. Patent No. 5,872,566).

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 12 and 25 to further patentably define the invention over the combination of the cited references. Support for the amendment of claims 1, 12 and 25 may be found, for example, in Applicant's Figs. 2-4 and Specification at page 5, paragraphs 0023 and 0024.

For example, claim 1 as amended now recites, in part, “a data-line positioned parallel to the scrollbar, the data-line having a plurality of tick marks; and a graphical element extending between the scrollbar and the data-line for associating the slider to the data-line.” In contrast, each of Himmel , et al. and Bates 566 disclose a graphical interface wherein indicators are formed integral with the scroll bar. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits the cited references, taken alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest a data-line positioned parallel to the scrollbar, and a graphical element extending between the scrollbar and the data-line for associating the slider to the data-line, as recited in claim 1, as amended.

Therefore, claim 1 is believed allowable in its present form.

Claims 2-7, 10 and 11 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1, and thus are believed allowable in view of their respective dependence from an allowable base claim.

Further, claim 6, as amended, depends from claim 5 and recites in part, “wherein the data-line is configured to display, separate from the display area, a pop-up display associated with a chunk of data.” Claim 6 has been amended to clarify that the pop-up display is separate from the display area where the display elements being browsed are displayed. This provides an advantage over the cited references by permitting viewing of the entirety of the display elements, while providing additional information about the elements to the user via the pop-up display that is separate from the display area. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references, taken alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter of claim 6, as amended.

Accordingly, claim 6 is believed allowable in its own right.

Claim 7 has been amended to depend from claim 6, and is thus also believed allowable in view of its dependence from claim 6.

Independent claim 12, as amended now recites, in part, “positioning a data-line parallel to the scrollbar, the data-line having a plurality of tick marks; and positioning a movable graphical element to extend between the scrollbar and the data-line for associating the slider to the data-line.” Claim 12 is believed allowable for substantially the same reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1.

Therefore, claim 12 is believed allowable in its present form.

Claims 13-18 and 21-24 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 12, and thus are believed allowable in view of their respective dependence from an allowable base claim.

Further, claim 17, as amended, recites “A method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising configuring the data-line to display a pop-up display, separate from the display area, associated with a chunk of data.” Claim 17 has been amended to clarify that the pop-up display is separate from the display area where the display elements being browsed are displayed. This provides an advantage over the cited references by permitting viewing of the entirety of the display elements, while providing additional information about the elements to the user via the pop-up display that is separate from the display area. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references, taken alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter of claim 17, as amended.

Accordingly, claim 17 is believed allowable in its own right.

Claim 18 depends from claim 17, and is thus also believed allowable in view of its dependence from claim 17.

Independent claim 25, as amended, now recites, in part, “a data-line positioned parallel to the scrollbar, the data-line having a plurality indicia that define chunks of data; and a marker extending between the scrollbar and the data-line for associating the slider to the data-line.” Claim 25 is believed allowable for substantially the same reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1.

Therefore, claim 25 is believed allowable in its present form.

Claims 26 and 28-31 depend from claim 25, and thus are believed allowable in view of their respective dependence from an allowable base claim.

Further, claim 31, as amended, depends from claim 25 and recites, in part, “wherein the data-line is configured to display a pop-up display, separate from the display area, associated with at least one of the chunks of data.” Claim 31 has been amended to clarify that the pop-up display is separate from the display area where the display elements being browsed are displayed. This provides an advantage over the cited references by permitting viewing of the entirety of the display elements, while providing additional information about the elements to the user via the pop-up display that is separate from the display area. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references, taken alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter of claim 31, as amended.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-7, 10-18, 21-26 and 28-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmel, et al. and further in view of Bates-566 be withdrawn.

Claims 8, 19 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmel, et al., Bates-566 and further in view of Gleib, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,739,817).

Claim 8 depends from claim 1, and is believed allowable, since Glei, et al. does not overcome the deficiencies of Himmel, et al. and/or Bates-566 with respect to claim 1.

Claim 19 depends from claim 12, and is believed allowable, since Glei, et al. does not overcome the deficiencies of Himmel, et al. and/or Bates-566 with respect to claim 12.

Claim 32 depends from claim 25, and is believed allowable, since Glei, et al. does not overcome the deficiencies of Himmel, et al. and/or Bates-566 with respect to claim 25.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 8, 19 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmel, et al., Bates-566, and further in view of Glei, et al., be withdrawn.

Claims 9, 20 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmel, et al., Bates-566 and further in view of Bates-961 (U.S. Patent No. 5,874,961).

Claim 9 depends from claim 1, and is believed allowable, since Bates-961 does not overcome the deficiencies of Himmel, et al. and/or Bates-566 with respect to claim 1.

Claim 20 depends from claim 12, and is believed allowable, since Bates-961 does not overcome the deficiencies of Himmel, et al. and/or Bates-566 with respect to claim 12.

Claim 33 depends from claim 25, and is believed allowable, since Bates-961 does not overcome the deficiencies of Himmel, et al. and/or Bates-566 with respect to claim 25.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 9, 20 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmel, et al., Bates-566, and further in view of Bates-961, be withdrawn.

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmel, et al., Bates-566 and further in view of Arbab, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,778,192 B2).

Claim 27 depends from claim 25, and is believed allowable, since Arbab, et al. does not overcome the deficiencies of Himmel, et al. and/or Bates-566 with respect to claim 25.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmel, et al., Bates-566 and further in view of Arbab, et al., be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that no combination of the cited references teaches, discloses or suggests the subject matter of the pending claims. The pending claims are therefore in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of the claims.

In the event Applicant has overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicant hereby conditionally petitions therefor and authorizes that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 20-0095, TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.

Should any question concerning any of the foregoing arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (317) 894-0801.

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